

EXECUTIVE ORDER S-04-06
by the
Governor of the State of California

WHEREAS, California has successfully responded to earthquakes, floods, fires, freezes, outbreaks of infectious disease, droughts, pestilence, civil unrest, mudslides, chemical spills, and the threat of terrorist action, including 19 major disasters between 1989 and 2006 and more than 1,200 proclaimed States of Emergency between 1950 and 2006 affecting every county in the State; and

WHEREAS, the state government and many local governments, non-profit organizations, and businesses have already taken proactive steps to prepare for disasters in California; and

WHEREAS, California is a recognized leader in emergency management and the federal government has now adopted California's Standardized Emergency Management System as the core of their emergency response system; and

WHEREAS, state and local government agencies must continue to strengthen efforts to prepare for catastrophic disasters; and

WHEREAS, public-private partnerships are essential to preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters; and

WHEREAS, more needs to be done to educate Californians about what they can do to be better prepared for the next disaster; and

WHEREAS, the efficient mobilization of federal, private sector, and non-profit resources is critical to effectively prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the powers and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California do hereby issue this Order to become effective immediately:

1. The Director of the Office of Emergency Services and the Director of the Office of Homeland Security shall periodically, but no less than quarterly, convene a meeting with, among others, the Adjutant General of the California National Guard, the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing, the Secretary of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Environmental Protection, the Director of Finance, the Secretary of Food and Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, the Secretary of Resources, the Secretary of State and Consumer Services, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, the Director of Water Resources, the State Public Health Officer, the Director of Health Services, the State Veterinarian, the Director of Fish and Game, the Director of Toxic Substances Control, the Chair of the Air Resources Board, and the Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority.

The Directors shall utilize these meetings to: (a) assess and provide necessary information to the Governor, Legislature, local agencies, and the public on pending emergency conditions that threaten the public health and safety, (b) develop a consolidated set of budget, legislative, and administrative actions, along with identification of additional federal resources required to improve state prevention and response capabilities to deal with pending threats to public health and safety, and (c) assist in the management of emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts.

2. An Emergency Partnership Advisory Workgroup (Workgroup) shall be convened by the Director of the Office of Emergency Services. The Workgroup shall assist the Director in securing agreements between affected state agencies and non-profit and private sector resources necessary to respond to threatened or actual emergency situations. The Workgroup members shall be selected by the Director of the Office of

Emergency Services and be composed of at least seven non-profit and private sector representatives who are involved in preparing their communities for disasters.

The Workgroup's duties shall include: (a) providing advice to the Director of the Office of Emergency Services on appropriate agreements to provide for quick access to emergency supplies and services in order to minimize the need to stockpile such supplies during normal times, (b) providing advice to the Director of the Office of Emergency Services on logistic measures needed to quickly deliver needed supplies and services to affected areas, (c) providing advice to the Director of the Office of Emergency Services on methods to utilize non-profit and private sector capabilities to increase the surge capacity of state and local agencies responding to emergencies, (d) promoting the integration of the non-profit and private sectors into the emergency services system so that people can be better informed and prepared for emergencies, and (e) encouraging systems that aid business and economic recovery after a disaster.

3. By June 1, 2006, the Director of the Office of Emergency Services shall promulgate model Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government plans and guidelines to be provided to state and local agencies in order to assist them in ensuring the continuity of government and ensuring the provision of essential services to the public during and after a catastrophic event.

4. By September 30, 2006, all Executive Branch agencies shall update their Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government plans consistent with the guidelines and submit them to the Cabinet Secretary and the Director of the Office of Emergency Services and include procedures for the testing and exercising of these plans.

5. All Executive Branch agencies, through the coordination of the Director of the Office of Emergency Services, shall increase their efforts for the "Be Smart, Be Prepared, Be Responsible" public awareness campaign to ensure that all individuals, families and schools have the information they need to prepare themselves until government assistance can arrive during and subsequent to disasters.

6. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall convene a working group of representatives from hospitals and health facilities throughout California to: (a) develop by June 1, 2006, a recommended program to ensure local health facility surge capacity plans achieve federal Health Resources and Services Administration surge capacity benchmarks, and (b) participate in conducting exercises and training to prepare for natural and man-made disasters.

7. The California Service Corps, in cooperation with the Health and Human Services Agency, the Office of Emergency Services, the Office of Homeland Security, and non-profit volunteer organizations, shall ensure the coordination of volunteer activities related to disaster response and recovery, including necessary training, equipment, and transportation provisions.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that agencies under my direct executive authority shall cooperate in the implementation of this Order. Other entities of state government, including the University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges, constitutional officers, legislative and judicial branches, and the California Public Utilities Commission, are requested to assist in its implementation. This Order is not intended to, and does not create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its departments, agencies, or other entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this the eighteenth day of April 2006.

/s/ Arnold Schwarzenegger

Governor of California